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PATENT

ED-US030151

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Kozo YAMAMOTO et al. : Patent Art Unit: 3679
Serial No. 10/787,171 : Examiner: Gregory John Binda
Filed: February 27, 2004 :
For: DAMPER MECHANISM AND :
DAMPER DISK ASSEMBLY :
: :
:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents are attached.

Since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a) (2) (i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. Patent and each U.S. patent application publication.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three 3 months of the filing date of RCE of this application. Thus, *no fee is believed to be due for this Information Disclosure Statement*. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed for that purpose. A copy of German Office Action of the corresponding German Application No. DE102004010884.6-27 is attached hereto.

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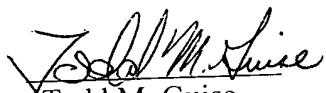
German Patent Publication No. DE-3240238 is believed to be equivalent to US Patent No. 4,559,024, which is cited as a translation.

German Patent Publication No. DE-19916871 is believed to be equivalent to US Patent No. 6,244,963, which is cited as a translation.

German Patent Publication No. DE-10146904 is believed to be equivalent to US Patent No. 2002-0039925, which is cited as a translation.

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

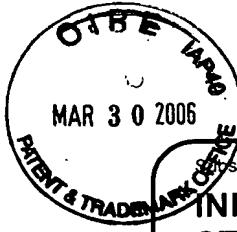
Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

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of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/787,171
Filing Date	02/27/04
First Named Inventor	Kozo YAMAMOTO et al.
Group Art Unit	3679
Examiner Name	Gregory J. Bindra
Attorney Docket Number	ED-US030151

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

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Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.6). For Japanese patent documents, the three-letter year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.